

Message Text

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71

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-11 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 ADP-00

EB-11 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 RSR-01 /179 W
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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7403

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1271

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, UN, ECOSOC

SUBJ: 55 TH SESSION ECOSOC PROPOSED ECONOMIC
COMMISSION FOR WEST ASIA

1. USUN WISHES TO INDICATE THAT THE SUCCESSFUL ADJOURNMENT OF THIS ISSUE TO JULY SESSION WAS IN FACT A TEMPORARY MOVE WHICH IN NO WAY DIMINISHES THE INTEREST IN THE DETERMINATION OF ARABS TO CREAT A NEW REGIONAL COMMISSION WHICH WILL EXCLUDE ISRAEL DE FACTO IF NOT DE JURE.

2. PAST EXPERIENCES SUGGEST THAT NEITHER ECAFE, ECA, NOR ECE

WOULD BE RECEPTIVE TO ISRAELI MEMBERSHIP.

CONSEQUENTLY, PRESENT US POSTURE REQUIRES THAT WE EITHER (A) FIGHT FOR STATUS QUO WHICH DENIES ISRAEL PARTICIPATION IN UNESOB OR THE REGIONAL COMMISSION, OR (B) ATTEMPT TO BLOCK TRANSFORMATION OF UNESOB WHICH, BY EXCLUDING ISRAEL VIA THE ELECTORAL PROCESS, WOULD FORMALIZE WHAT IS ALREADY IN PRACTICE. OUR BEST GUESSTIMATE IS THAT WE WOULD LOSE EITHER BATTLE IF THE ISSUE GOES TO A VOTE IN ECOSOC PLENARY.

3. GIVEN THIS BLEAK PROSPECT, IT WOULD APPEAR DESIRABLE TO BEGIN ASAP TO DEVELOP OUR POLICY LINE. WOULD US BE
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PREPARED PROMOTE REALIGNMENT OF MEMBERSHIP WITHIN ECA, ECE, ECAFE, ETC. IN EFFORT FIND FORMULA SATISFACTORY TO

EUROPEANS, AFRICANS, ARABS, AND ISRAELI? IN
PROCESS WE SHOULD ALSO ADDRESS PROBLEM OF EQUITABLE GEO-
GRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION WHICH WILL EXIST IF SOME OR ALL OF
MAGHREB STATES REMAIN IN ECA WHILE OTHER ARABS JOIN ANOTHER
COMMISSION.

4. IF A STANCE OTHER THAN LAST DITCH VOTING OPPOSITION IS
TO BE ASSUMED, WE URGE THAT PRELIMINARY VIEWS BE DEVELOPED
FOR TESTING IN COURSE OF ECOSOC 54. OBVIOUSLY WE SHOULD ALSO
INSURE THAT GOI CONSULTED SO THAT REAL DIFFICULTY AND
DIMINISHING NUMBER OF OPTIONS WOULD BE BEFORE THEM.

COMMENT: IN VIEW STRAINED CLIMATE WE ANTICIPATE IN
ECOSOC 55 AS CONSEQUENCE OF CRUNCHES OVER R. G A. SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY, MULTINATIONALS, ETC. IT WOULD BE USEFUL NOT
TO EXPEND LIMITED CAPITAL ON THIS ISSUE.
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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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